

From: Patrick McDonald
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 7:19pm
Subject: Will you let consumers down again?

To whom this may concern,

I just can't believe how the DoJ was ready to let Microsoft off the hook so easily, and above all, so conveniently for the company. The proposed settlement looked so much like it was politically motivated, that it raises serious doubts as to the DoJ's competence, nay its integrity. After all, you yourselves found M\$ guilty of abusing monopoly power, and M\$ repeatedly lied to you in court. So the sentence better fit the crime... or no-one will take the DoJ seriously again, which spells trouble in a democracy (now here's thought).

Give Microsoft the break they ask for, and they'll be back in no time doing what they do best, i.e. being a brutal and abusive monopolist. And expect them to be back at it with a vengeance. For M\$ will have been reminded that strangling competitors using a combination of legal and illegal means is a hugely worthwhile and profitable enterprise. Unless the price to pay for this kind of behavior is heavy enough to deter any corporation (even giants like M\$), you (the DoJ) and all of us citizen will have been a laughably short interlude in the life of an unrepentant and all-powerful monopolist.

In the name of many consumers from the US and abroad, who think that the DoJ might be our last hope to force Microshaft to play by the rules, please don't let us down... again.

Pat McDonald

--

Patrick P. McDonald, PhD
Ass. Prof. of Immunology
Pulmonary Division,
Université de Sherbrooke

Centre de recherche clinique
3001, 12e avenue Nord, pièce 4849
Sherbrooke, Qc J1H 5N4
Canada

tel 819-346-1110 x14849
fax 819-564-5377
email patrick.mcdonald@courrier.usherb.ca